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November 13, 2020

Thank you for subscribing to my weekly newsletter. Below you will find important federal, state and local updates from the last week curated for you in one place.

On Wednesday, November 11th, our community, state, and nation honored Veteran's Day. Now more than ever it is important that we remember the sacrifices made by the heroes of this country, and acknowledge the courage required to secure our freedoms. We are fortunate to have so many veterans in our community and I would like to thank all of those who have served.

Should you have any questions about the information below, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter.

Sincerely,



State Updates

DSHS: COVID-19 Case Dashboard

Texas Case Counts

COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

DSHS 7-DAY COVID DASHBOARD

As of November 6th, 2020

CASES

942,539

+ 49,088

OVER PAST 7 DAYS

+ 5.49%

OVER PAST 7 DAYS

TRAUMA SERVICE AREAS

7-Day Percentage of Lab-Confirmed COVID-19 out of
Total Hospital Capacity

| TSA | Major Metro Area | 31-Oct | 1-Nov | 2-Nov | 3-Nov | 4-Nov | 5-Nov | 6-Nov |
|-----|-----------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| A | Amarillo | 28.3% | 28.1% | 28.8% | 31.0% | 31.8% | 30.8% | 32.3% |
| B | Lubbock | 21.9% | 23.9% | 23.1% | 23.4% | 22.1% | 23.6% | 22.7% |
| C | Wichita Falls | 7.6% | 7.0% | 6.4% | 7.8% | 8.5% | 8.4% | 8.4% |
| D | Abilene | 6.1% | 8.2% | 8.2% | 8.6% | 7.9% | 7.9% | 7.1% |
| E | Dallas/Ft. Worth | 10.0% | 10.3% | 10.6% | 10.9% | 10.7% | 10.4% | 10.1% |
| F | Paris | 10.3% | 11.3% | 12.8% | 13.3% | 12.1% | 12.7% | 12.4% |
| G | Longview/Tyler | 9.2% | 9.4% | 9.4% | 9.3% | 9.5% | 9.6% | 10.3% |
| H | Lufkin | 8.8% | 9.0% | 8.9% | 8.8% | 8.8% | 9.5% | 9.1% |
| I | El Paso | 41.6% | 39.5% | 42.1% | 42.3% | 43.0% | 42.2% | 43.7% |
| J | Midland/Odessa | 8.3% | 8.6% | 9.4% | 9.2% | 9.6% | 10.3% | 11.0% |
| K | San Angelo | 6.6% | 7.5% | 7.5% | 7.3% | 7.2% | 9.2% | 9.2% |
| L | Belton/Killeen | 4.2% | 4.6% | 4.4% | 4.2% | 3.8% | 4.0% | 4.2% |
| M | Waco | 7.4% | 9.5% | 10.9% | 8.8% | 9.7% | 10.2% | 11.2% |
| N | Bryan/College Station | 10.8% | 10.6% | 12.0% | 12.7% | 11.0% | 8.8% | 9.2% |
| O | Austin | 3.3% | 2.9% | 3.0% | 3.4% | 3.3% | 3.6% | 3.6% |
| P | San Antonio | 3.9% | 4.5% | 3.8% | 4.0% | 5.2% | 5.2% | 5.0% |
| Q | Houston | 4.2% | 13.9% | 4.5% | 4.2% | 4.2% | 4.3% | 4.3% |
| R | Galveston | 8.2% | 8.3% | 10.6% | 8.7% | 7.6% | 6.4% | 7.6% |
| S | Victoria | 4.0% | 4.7% | 5.5% | 6.0% | 6.2% | 7.5% | 7.7% |
| T | Laredo | 14.1% | 15.0% | 12.2% | 14.7% | 12.4% | 11.0% | 10.4% |
| U | Corpus Christi | 4.9% | 4.6% | 4.4% | 6.1% | 5.9% | 5.1% | 5.3% |
| V | Lower RGV | 7.5% | 7.2% | 7.1% | 7.2% | 6.8% | 6.4% | 6.6% |
| ALL | | 8.5% | 10.5% | 9.0% | 9.0% | 9.2% | 9.1% | 9.2% |

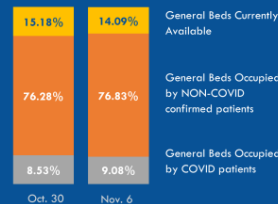
[Visit the DSHS Coronavirus Case Counts Dashboard](#)

CURRENT COVID-CONFIRMED PATIENTS IN THE HOSPITAL

6,070 **+7.87%**
TOTAL OVER PAST 7 DAYS

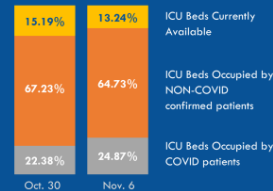
GENERAL BEDS: NON-COVID vs. COVID

4,233
GENERAL PATIENTS
+6.41%
OVER PAST 7 DAYS



ICU BEDS: NON-COVID vs. COVID

1,785
ICU PATIENTS
+10.03%
OVER PAST 7 DAYS

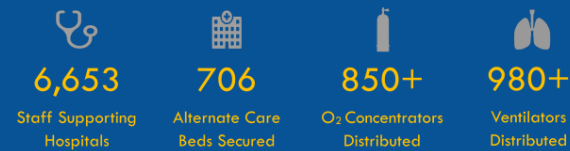


[Visit the DSHS Hospital Counts Dashboard](#)

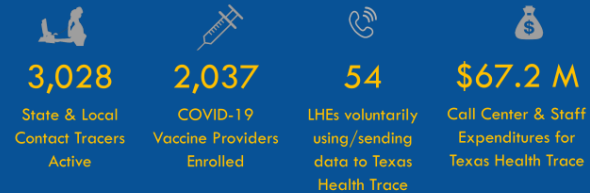
DSHS FUNDS

\$1,559,888,313
TOTAL EXPENDITURES

RESOURCES



CONTACT TRACING



[Click Here to the Visit Texas Health Trace Website](#)

Gov. Abbott, DSHS Announce Distribution Of COVID-19 Antibody Therapy To Texas Hospitals



Office of the Texas Governor | Greg Abbott

Governor Abbott, DSHS Announce Distribution Of COVID-19...

Governor Greg Abbott today announced that the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is allocating an initial shipment of bamlanivimab, the Eli Lilly & Company monoclonal antibody therapy, to be distributed as early as next week to...

[Read more](#)
gov.texas.gov

Texas General Land Office announces new Hurricane Harvey disaster recovery agreement with



On Thursday, Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced a new agreement will be signed between the General Land Office and the City of Houston for administration of some disaster recovery programs. In accordance with the new terms, the City of Houston will continue to administer approximately \$825 million in Community Development Block Grants for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), while the GLO will operate the Homeowner Assistance Program to rebuild single family homes for Houston homeowners still needing assistance related to damage from Hurricane Harvey. The agreement will include strict benchmarks essential for tracking progress. If the City of Houston does not meet a benchmark for any program, those program funds will be returned to the GLO for additional GLO lead recovery efforts in the City.

“The GLO has come to an agreement with the City of Houston in the effort to help Houstonians recover from the worst natural disaster in our state’s history,” said Commissioner Bush. “With this new agreement, the GLO will continue to monitor the City of Houston’s progress with funding allocated to remaining programs while aggressively working to repair and reconstruct homes for families still in need of help rebuilding their lives. The GLO’s focus continues to be making significant progress in putting federal dollars to work for the people of Houston.”

During discussions dating back to March 2020 between the state agency and local officials, the GLO noted the progress made by the City of Houston under its Multifamily Rental Program and Homebuyer Assistance Program (HBAP). To prevent delays in the administration of those programs, the GLO agreed to allow the City of Houston to continue managing those programs and supplement the budgets with underutilized funds from unlaunched programs. Because the GLO felt so strongly about the continuation of the Multifamily and HBAP programs, other programs will also remain with the City of Houston for implementation including Single Family Development, Small Rental, Buyouts, Public Services, Economic Revitalization, and Planning under strict program benchmarks. During negotiations, the GLO further encouraged the City of Houston to simplify and enact remaining programs simultaneously to expedite the expenditure of federal funding.

Under the new contract, the City of Houston agreed to meet aggressive benchmarks necessary to expedite recovery. The GLO will strictly enforce these benchmarks to prevent additional delays in program implementation and to avoid recapture of recovery funds earmarked for Houstonians by failing to meet HUD deadlines. Failure to meet the agreed upon benchmarks outlined in the agreement will result in funds being reallocated back to the GLO for administration. Recognizing the need to work as quickly as possible, the Office of the Mayor agreed to employ additional resources for the returned programs including additional city departments for added capacity and direct oversight of several programs by city management.

TxDOT: Click It or Ticket

Click It or Ticket, Texas.



Fines up to \$200 #EndTheStreakTX **TxDOT**

November 2020 marks the 18th anniversary of “[Click It or Ticket](#),” a campaign urging Texans to buckle up. Today, almost 91% of Texans use their seatbelts-only 76% did when the campaign launched in 2002. In 2019, the number of people who died while not wearing a seat belt decreased by 6% over 2018. Still, 925 unbuckled drivers and passengers were killed on Texas roadways.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates since its inception 18 years ago, “Click It or Ticket” has saved 6,234 lives, prevented more than 100,000 serious injuries and saved Texas more than \$23.6 billion in related economic costs.

While almost 91% of Texans are buckling up, nearly 9% still don’t. That’s why the “Click It or Ticket” campaign to remind Texans to buckle up in the front and back seats, both day and night, is more important than ever.

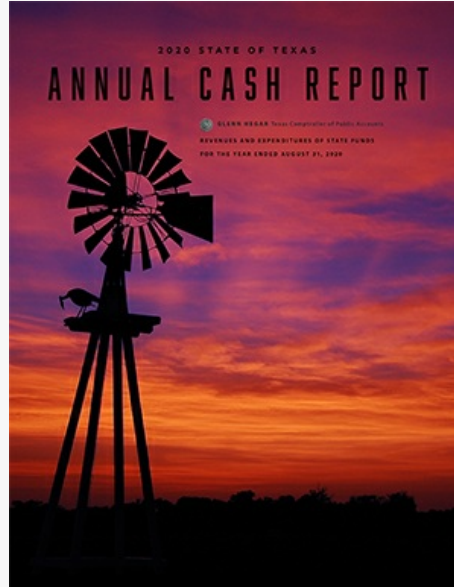
Wearing a seat belt reduces the risk of dying by 45 percent for people in the front seat of passenger cars. For those in pickups, seat belts reduce the risk of dying by 60 percent since pickups are more likely to roll over than passenger vehicles. Your seat belt is designed to keep you from being thrown into the dashboard or windshield—or even onto the road. An airbag can be a big lifesaver. But without a seat belt, it can be ineffective and even dangerous. In a crash, a seat belt ensures you’re not thrown into a fast-opening airbag—a force that could injure or kill you. You may think your airbag is going to protect you, but it’s designed to work with seat belts, not to replace them.

Each year during the “Click It or Ticket” campaign, law enforcement throughout Texas works to increase seat belt use. From Nov. 16 to 29, 2020, they’ll ramp up enforcement efforts to ticket drivers and passengers not wearing their seat belts, especially at night. Thanksgiving is a time when many people take to the road to enjoy time with friends and family. Be safe-buckle up.

In Texas, the law requires everyone in a vehicle to buckle up or face fines and court costs up to \$200. Children younger than 8 years must be in a child safety seat or booster seat unless they’re taller than 4 feet 9 inches. If they aren’t properly restrained, the driver faces fines up to \$250, plus court costs.

[Learn More about the 'Click It or Ticket' Campaign](#)

Comptroller: State of Texas Annual Cash Report Now Available



State of Texas Annual Cash Report

The Cash Report shows revenue and expenditure details for all funds in the Texas Treasury. Revenue is reported in the period when cash is collected, and expenditures are reported in the period when cash disbursements are made.

[Read more](#)
comptroller.texas.gov

[Read the Cash Report](#)

THECB highlights benefits of digital learning during National Distance Learning Week

60x30TX



Texas Higher Education
Coordinating Board

THECB highlights benefits of digital learning during...

during National Distance Learning Week As part of , 2020, Austin, Texas - National Distance Learning Week (NDLW), the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) joins the United States Distance Learning Association to highlight the success ...

[Read more](#)

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TDI: Shopping for a health plan? How to spot problems



Shopping for a health plan? How to spot problems

With Healthcare.gov and Medicare open enrollments in swing, many Texans are shopping for health plans. The Texas Department of Insurance has tips to help consumers avoid scams and guard against deceptive marketing. Consumer alert

[Read more](#)

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REMINDER: HHSC 2020 COVID-19 Impact Survey — One Week Left



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

REMINDER: HHSC 2020 COVID-19 Impact Survey – One Week Left

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission wants to remind you that this is the final week to fill out the [COVID-19 Impact Survey](#) for HHSC health care providers. The deadline to complete the survey has been extended to Nov. 13 at 5 p.m.

Texas HHSC is committed to improving your health, safety and well-being. Your feedback is critical to help us evaluate your current resources throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

[Take the survey](#). It should take about 20 minutes to complete. Thank you for your time, and we look forward to your feedback.

We encourage you to forward these communications to the appropriate person or persons in your organization familiar with the financial and utilization information for your billing provider (as defined by NPI/TPI/HHSC Contract Number) so they can respond to this urgent survey.

Take Survey

City of Houston & Harris County Updates

Harris County Public Health Dashboard



Harris County
Public Health
Building a Healthy Community

H.D. 127 Updates

Small Business Saturday

WHEN YOU **SHOP SMALL** YOU HAVE A **BIG IMPACT**

Small Business Saturday

SHARE JOY | SHOP SMALL All Season Long This holiday season looks a little different, but we can still share joy. Shop Small and support your favorite small businesses both in-store and online all holiday season long. Help Lake Houston Area...

[Read more](#)

web.lakehouston.org

Capitol Office Closure

The Capitol office will remain closed in line with suggested Stay Home, Work Safe guidelines. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter or district127.huberty@house.texas.gov.

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